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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Comments on Microsfot Settlement

The PJF is disastrously weak, as many commentators have already noted over the last few months. As a programmer who has suffered with the poor quality operating systems that Microsoft has distributed for the last 20 years, I am disgusted that my government would allow Microsoft to continue to strangle the software industry.

Many of the key restrictions in the PFJ relate to Microsoft middleware, but the definition of "middleware" is weak and the the restrictions are easy to avoid. Specifically,

- * Because a software unit will cease to be defined a middleware a year after it is incorporated into the Operating System, the PFJ encourages Microsoft to integrate more functions into the OS. I had hoped the PFJ would discourage this, not promote it.

- * Programmers need the APIs in the OS published more than the APIs to middleware. Without documented OS APIs and program document formats, Microsoft can continue to stifle development from ISVs.

The PFJ was clearly constructed so that Microsoft could avoid any hindrance to its predatory business practices, and if it becomes final, it will only serve to maintain status quo.

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